

## Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 IOE-00 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12

OIC-02 CU-04 AGR-10 DOTE-00 HEW-06 HUD-02 INT-05

AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EPA-04 INR-07

L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 USIA-15 OES-05 SS-15 SP-02

FEAE-00 PRS-01 /160 W

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P R 271234Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4845

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS CAIRO 6379

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: SENV, ESCAP, EXWA, EG

SUBJECT: ECA REGIONAL PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON HABITAT, CAIRO,  
JUNE 21-26, 1975

REF: CAIRO 6338; STATE 147838

1. THERE FOLLOWS, VERY MUCH CONDENSED, THE MORE SIGNIFICANT CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA'S REGIONAL PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON HABITAT: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IN AFRICA:

2. CONCLUSIONS: CONFERENCE WAS IN AGREEMENT THAT PROBLEMS OF UNCONTROLLABLE POPULATION GROWTH, RURAL STAGNATION, MIGRATION, INABILITY OF URBAN CENTERS TO COPE WITH POPULATION INCREASE, AND ENVIRONMENTAL DETERIORATION MUST BE DEALT WITH AT BOTH NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS. THE OBJECTIVE OF HUMAN SETTLEMENT POLICIES OF EACH NATION SHOULD BE TO SECURE MINIMUM STANDARD OF LIVING FOR ALL AND TO RESTRAIN EXCESSIVE CONSUMPTION BY PRIVILEGED GROUPS UNTIL  
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MINIMUM STANDARDS ARE MET. SINCE MAJORITY OF AFRICAN PEOPLE

STILL LIVE IN RURAL AREAS, FIRST OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE TO IMPROVE CONDITIONS IN THOSE AREAS (AFRICANS CONSTANTLY REFERRED TO ALLEGED EUROPEAN VIEW THAT URBAN PROBLEMS WERE MORE IMPORTANT). HUMAN SETTLEMENT POLICIES MUST BE FREE OF ANY FORM OF DISCRIMINATION AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT ALL ASPECTS OF AFRICAN FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE.

3. CONFERENCE CONCLUDED THAT LAND IS KEY RESOURCE IN RELATION TO HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. NATIONAL SETTLEMENT POLICIES, THEREFORE, AS A MEANS TO FURTHERING SOCIAL JUSTICE, SHOULD PROVIDE FOR PROPER ALLOCATION OF LAND USE. CONFERENCE WAS ALSO OF VIEW MAJOR EFFORT NEEDED TO PREPARE TECHNICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CADRES FOR PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF FUTURE HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. A PRIMARY OBJECTIVE SHOULD BE THE ENDING OF RURAL ISOLATION IN COUNTRIES WHERE THESE CONDITIONS EXIST. IN VIEW SCARCITY RESOURCES IN AFRICA, CONCEPT OF SELFHELP AND MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES BY ALL GOVTS WAS A MOST IMPORTANT ELEMENT IN FUTURE ACTIVITIES.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS: CAIRO CONFERENCE RECOMMENDED THAT ALL NATIONS, ESPECIALLY RICH AND DEVELOPED, AID IN HUMAN SETTLEMENT PROGRAMS. RICH NATIONS SHOULD GIVE ADEQUATE PORTION OF ASSISTANCE TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES. IT WAS RECOMMENDED THAT VANCOUVER HABITAT CONFERENCE WORK TOWARD CREATION OF AUTONOMOUS UN AGENCY SPECIALIZING IN SETTLEMENT PROBLEMS AND THAT THIS AGENCY BE LOCATED IN DEVELOPING COUNTRY. CONFERENCE RECOMMENDED THAT SPECIAL TRAINING CENTERS ON HUMAN SETTLEMENT BE ESTABLISHED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. FURTHER, A PROGRAM FOR INTER-AFRICAN COOPERATION, EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION AND RESEARCH SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED.

5. CONFERENCE RECOMMENDED THAT AFRICAN NATIONS MEET TO REVIEW STRATEGY ON SETTLEMENT POLICY FOLLOWING VANCOUVER CONFERENCE. AFRICAN GOVTS SHOULD ALSO PLAN TO POOL RESOURCES TO UPGRADE AND EXPAND EXISTING INSTITUTIONS DEALING WITH HUMAN SETTLEMENT AFFAIRS.

6. IT WAS FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT VANCOUVER CONFERENCE INITIATE A WORLD SURVEY OF LAND WHICH WOULD INCLUDE CLASSIFICATION OF LAND ACCORDING TO USE.

7. RECOMMENDATION THAT ISRAEL, SAFRICA AND RHODESIA BE UNCLASSIFIED

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EXCLUDED FROM CANVOUCER CONFERENCE DISCUSSED SEPTTEL.

8. CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS, INCLUDING FINAL REPORT CONTAINING TEXT OF 10 GENERAL CONCLUSIONS AND 25 RECOMMENDATIONS BEING AIRPOUCHED. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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